



*Thw*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/754,931 Confirmation No. 9232  
First Named : Santosh Kumar Sadananda  
Inventor  
Filed : January 9, 2004  
TC/A.U. : A Method and Apparatus  
for a Network Database in  
an Optical Network  
Examiner :  
Docket No. : 6518P003X  
Customer No. : 08791

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-referenced application on the merits it is respectfully requested that the following amendment be entered.

**FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 3, 2004

Name: Jane Wolfe

Signature: *Jane Wolfe*

Date: June 3, 2004

*In the Specification:*

Please replace paragraph [0071] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0071]** To describe exemplary embodiment of the invention, an exemplary network will first be described. It should be understood that in a network with a single link between nodes, a path may be described by the series of nodes through which that path travels (the links are impliedly distinguished). However, in a network with multiple links between nodes, a path is described by the series of nodes and interconnecting link(s) over which that path travels. There are a variety of ways to distinguish the links of an optical network (e.g., links could be individually labeled; if multiple line cards are used and each ~~link~~ line card has one port, then “node number, outgoing line card, incoming line card, node number” may be used; if multiple line cards are used where some have different ports, then “node number, outgoing line card, outgoing port, incoming port, incoming line card, node number” may be used; if ports in a node are individually labeled (irrespective of which line card they are on), then “node number, outgoing port number, incoming port number, node number” may be used; etc.). By way of illustration, and not by limitation, the format “node number, outgoing port number, incoming port number, node number” is used herein to indicate there is an optical link between those nodes.

Please replace paragraph [00165] with the following amended paragraph:

**[00165]** Similar to the allocate module 850, the allocate module 1550 causes the selected path/wavelength combinations to be allocated (e.g., the access node’s cross connect, routing database 1520, and service level connectivity database 1505, as well as communication to other nodes). Similar to the deallocate module 855, the deallocate module 1555 causes path/wavelength combinations to be deallocated. Similar to the add/remove module 860, the add/remove module 1560 addresses additions and removals of channels, links, and nodes in the optical network. Similar to the protection module 890, the protection module 1580 is called responsive to the add/remove module 1560 to implement a redundancy scheme. Exemplary manners of implementing the start up

module 1540, connectivity request module 1545, allocate module 1550, deallocate module 1555, and add/remove module 1560 are described respectively with respect to figures 17-18, 19, 20-22, 23-24, and 25-~~26~~33.